

Parish Priest

Fr Neil Fernando Mobile: 0478 085 894
E-mail: frneilfdo@gmail.com

Parish Hall Bookings

Lynn Fisher : Mobile: 0407 186 174

Pew Sheet

All notices/information for pew sheet to Parish Office by 9.00am Thursday mornings please

Parish Office

Telephone: (08) 8723 1353 Email: churchan@bigpond.net.au
Postal Address: PO Box 1357, Mt Gambier, SA, 5290

Church Addresses: Christ Church, 26 Bay Road, Mount Gambier
St Thomas, Church Street, Port MacDonnell
St Luke's, Post Office Road, Mount Schank

Web site : www.anglicanmountgambier.org.au

Details for giving by Direct Debit : The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier
BSB : 105-002
A/c number : 041 398 740



We pray for the Diocese of The Murray and Parish Council Members

Bishop Keith Dalby (Alice) ; Very Rev. David Price (Dean) (Lesley);
Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

and in the Limestone Coast

Fr Neil (Nalini); Fr Wayne Corker; Fr Lyndon Sulzberger, Bishop Michael Hough

Parish Counsellors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith, Faye Hill,
Dick Hamson, Graham Savage, Robyn Sweetnam, Sandy Coulson



The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas
Port MacDonnell**

Christmas Day : 25th December 2021



Joy to the world, the Lord is come



As a Christian community, we acknowledge and pay respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands on which we gather and meet.

We pay our respects to the Elders—past, present and future.

***Wearing of face masks is mandatory, so please remember to wear your face mask when attending any services, the Bell Tower Op Shop or meetings at the church.
You must also register using the QR code or by manually filling out an attendance sheet.***

From Fr Neil

JOY TO THE WORLD, THE LORD IS COME

Christmas Day has come. The preparation is over, the fever of shopping has broken, stillness and silence greet the dawn of this new day; and what have we? Almost indiscernibly, today's dawn brings something new. The world seems no different than it was yesterday, the sun rises, and this evening it will set. War and fear still threaten the earth. Tears still fall. Yet, there is something different today. Like the Shepherds, we must say, "let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us".

In Bethlehem on this morning, there is a blessed Messiah born. In the light of this early morning, we look around. We gather with our families and our friends; we gather as the Church. Today, we witness that God's Word is not, and never has been, empty. What God says, he means. Today, he says to you and me, do not be afraid!

We will leave here and return to our homes. Gifts will be opened, food and drink consumed. Soon, the holiday season will end, but what we celebrate today will never end. When we do go on from here, we too, should be like the shepherds, singing for joy! When the Christmas decorations are back in their boxes, our hearts should still be celebrating the birth of our Saviour.

Jesus Christ is born. The Angels sing God's praise, the Shepherds rejoice. This joy, to be shared by all the people, has reached our ears. We, too, sing and rejoice and why, because Emmanuel, God is with us.

I wish you a blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Friday, 24th December 2021—Christmas Eve			
7.00pm : St Luke's, Mt Schank		9.00pm : Christ Church, Mt Gambier	
Isa 9. 2-7	Ps 96. 7-13	Titus 2. 11-14	Luke 2. 1-14
Server	Julienne Feast		
Reader	Julienne Feast		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound desk	Trevor Christopher		
Saturday, 25th December 2021—Christmas Day			
9.00am : Christ Church, Mt Gambier (only service in parish)			
Isa 62. 11-12	Ps 97	Titus 3. 4-7	Luke 2. 15-20
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Rick and Lynn Fisher		
Intercessions	Anne Ashworth		
Sound desk	Trudy-Anne Doyle		
Sunday, 26th December 2021—Christmas 1			
9.00am : Christ Church, Mt Gambier (only service in parish)			
Sir 3. 2-14	Ps 128	Col 3. 12-21	Luke 2. 41-52
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Fran Laslett / Robyn Ashby		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound desk	Trevor Christopher		
Flowers	Roma Driscoll		
Sunday, 2nd January 2022—Christmas 2			
Prov 8. 22-31	Ps 147. 12-20	Eph 1. 3-6, 15-18	John 1. 1-18
Server	Trevor Christopher		
Readers	Brian Smith / Raylene Milligan		
Intercessions	Anne Ashworth		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Flowers	Robyn Sweetnam		

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



FOR DECEMBER

16th	Sathyanga	28th	Don Currie
9th	Dick Hamson	29th	Jennie McDonald
26th	Dean Searcy	30th	Simon and Jon Hawkes




FOR JANUARY

6th	Peter Searcy
8th	Robyn Ashby
13th	Neil Geddes
17th	David Clarkson
27th	Lorraine Sims

We wish them all a very happy birthday!!

Please check to see if your name is on the list at the back of the church — and if not, and you would like to have it appear—please add your name to the listing. Thank you



ROSTERS FOR	DECEMBER
GARDENING 	Graham Savage
 MOWING ROSTER	Rick Fisher
FOOD and FREEZER MINISTRY 	N.B. Due to COVID restrictions, we are unable to hand out home cooked goods to people presenting for Emergency Relief. However, pre-prepared goods such as frozen packaged foods are acceptable.

We would like to thank all the congregation for welcoming and supporting us during our time in Mount Gambier. Thanks for your warm friendship and fellowship and for the card and gift. I didn't get to say 'good bye' to each of you personally, but I remember you all. Thanks too for Fr Neil for all the fine qualities he brings to his ministry.

Love and blessings, Vivienne and Pepe



Christmas greetings

Fr Neil, the Parish Council and members of the congregation wish you all a joyous Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Prayer during COVID 19

Our heavenly Father, we come before you with contrite hearts, yearning for your comfort and your grace. In the midst of COVID 19 spreading across the globe, we ask in your mercy that you would stop this plague and restore harmony and health to the nations.

And we pray for the families, especially those who have lost loved ones to this disease, or those suffering from its effects. May we know the peace that passes all understanding, as we place our trust in Jesus, in whose powerful name we pray. Amen.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

Fr Neil will be conducting a service on Saturday, 1st January @ 9.00am for those who wish to attend.

Please note: There will be NO 11.00am service on Friday, 31st December

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS and POPCORN

When? 7.00—10.00pm
Thursday, 23/12
and Friday, 24/12

Where? Front lawn @
Christ Church

Please note : the Parish Office will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period—and will re-open on Monday, 10th January 2022.

Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Val Linder; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; June Willcourt; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Shirley Stacpoole; Terry Wilson; Anne Barry (Glen Solomons' godmother); Allan Hincks; Vern Petschel (Faye's uncle)

Pray for the repose of the souls of those near and dear to each one of us and for those whose yearly remembrance occurs this week.

Please pray for Virginia Kuhl and her family and friends of **Lance Kuhl** as they mourn his death last week. Lance's funeral was held at Christ Church on Tuesday, 21st December.

If you wish for your name (or the name of someone you know) to be placed on the prayer list, please submit the request in writing—at present via email (including your name and the name of the person for whom prayers are required).

Forms for this purpose can also be found at the back of the church.



The Bell Tower Op Shop opening hours are:

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm

(unfortunately, the provision of tea/coffee etc. is not allowed during this time of COVID restrictions)

Please note : Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of the attendees at services and the Op Shop workers.

N.B. Please remember to wear a face mask and register via the QR code or manually complete an attendance sheet when attending the Op Shop. Thank you.

The Op Shop will be closed over the Christmas/New Year period from **Thursday, 23rd December 2021** and will re-open on **Monday, 10th January 2022**



A **BIG THANK YOU** to the Mount Gambier City Council for their assistance in removing the offensive graffiti from the southern wall of the church.



Services and events in the Parish

Fr Neil conducts 3 services weekly at Christ Church as follows:

Friday 11.00am
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am
Maximum of 100 attendees per service @ Christ Church

And 1 service at St Luke's, Mount Schank on the 2nd Sunday of each month
Maximum of 31 attendees per service @ St Luke's

Numbers attending services are limited within the body of the church due to COVID social distancing requirements and square meterage available

Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of all attendees at services

2nd & 4th Thursdays	4.00-5.00pm	Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison
Mondays and Thursdays	5.15-6.30pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room (N.B. Meditation Group will resume on Monday, 3rd January 2022)
Wednesdays	1.00-3.00pm	Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room
3rd Tuesday	2.00pm	Mothers' Union meet in Ashworth Room
1st & 3rd Thursdays	3.30-4.00pm	Tea and coffee
	4.00-5.00pm	Charismatic prayer group in hall

National Church Life Survey forms

Please place your completed NCLS form in the box at the back of the church as soon as possible.

Thank you

FUNDRAISING NEWS

The sausage sizzle at Bunnings last Saturday was a great success with \$1137.65 being raised for the Sunset Kitchen.

Thank you to all those people who helped in anyway to make it so successful. Special thanks to Foodland which donated a large portion of the sausages, bread and drinks for the day.

Fundraising Team